

Appln. No. 10/808,096
Amendment dated August 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed May 6, 2005

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. (Currently Amended) A plunger for forcing debris through a trap of a toilet, the plunger comprising:

a handle member is adapted for being gripped by a hand of a user; and

a plunger portion being coupled to said handle member, said plunger portion being adapted for being positioned in the bowl of the toilet, said plunger portion being adapted for forcing a fluid down the trap of the toilet to force debris through the trap to allow the bowl of the toilet to drain;

said plunger portion comprising a bulb member and a sleeve member united together, said sleeve member having an interior in fluid communication with an interior of said bulb member, said bulb member being coupled to said handle member;

said bulb member being defined by a substantially spherical bulb wall and said sleeve member being defined by a substantially cylindrical sleeve wall extending from said bulb wall at a juncture, said sleeve wall terminating at a substantially circular end opening;

said substantially cylindrical sleeve wall having a uniform diameter from said juncture with said substantially spherical bulb wall to said end opening of said sleeve wall.

2. (Original) The plunger as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

said plunger portion comprising a flexible material, said flexible material being for permitting said plunger portion to conform to the trap and direct said fluid into the trap.

3. (Cancelled)

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4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The plunger as set forth in claim [[[3]]] 1, further comprising:

said sleeve member comprising a diameter less than a diameter of said bulb member such that the reduction in diameter between said bulb member and said sleeve member accelerates the fluid being expelled from said bulb member through said sleeve member to increase pressure in the trap to facilitate forcing the debris through the trap of the toilet.

7. (Currently Amended) The plunger as set forth in claim [[[3]]] 1, further comprising:

said plunger portion comprising a plurality of annular rings, each of said annular rings outwardly extending from said sleeve member such that each of said annular rings is positioned substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of said plunger portion, said annular rings are adapted for engaging the surface of the bowl to provide a seal between said sleeve member and the bowl of the toilet to inhibit the fluid forced from said bulb member from blowing back between said sleeve member and the bowl of the toilet.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) The plunger as set forth in claim 1, wherein said bulb wall has a substantially spherical interior surface and a substantially spherical exterior surface.

10. (New) The plunger as set forth in claim 1, wherein said sleeve wall has a substantially cylindrical interior surface and a substantially cylindrical exterior surface.

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11. (New) The plunger as set forth in claim 7, wherein each ring of said plurality of rings is substantially uniformly spaced from another ring of said plurality of rings.

12. (New) The plunger as set forth in claim 1, wherein a diameter of an interior surface of said sleeve wall is approximately one-half of a maximum diameter of an interior surface of said bulb wall.

13. (New) The plunger as set forth in claim 1, wherein said plunger portion comprises a flexible material, said flexible material being for permitting said plunger portion to conform to the trap and direct said fluid into the trap;

wherein said sleeve member has a diameter less than a diameter of said bulb member;

wherein said plunger portion comprises a plurality of annular rings, each of said annular rings outwardly extending from said sleeve member such that each of said annular rings is positioned substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of said plunger portion, said annular rings are adapted for engaging the surface of the bowl to provide a seal between said sleeve member and the bowl of the toilet to inhibit the fluid forced from said bulb member from blowing back between said sleeve member and the bowl of the toilet;

wherein each ring of said plurality of rings is substantially uniformly spaced from another ring of said plurality of rings;

wherein said bulb wall has a substantially spherical interior surface and a substantially spherical exterior surface;

wherein said sleeve wall has a substantially cylindrical interior surface and a substantially cylindrical exterior surface.